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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cornell Senior Extension Associate Receives NY Wine & Grape Foundation's Unit Research Award

by Joe Ogrodnick

GENEVA, NY: Tim Martinson, a Cornell University senior extension associate, was the recipient of the 2007 Research Award for major contributions in research and education to benefit the New York grape and wine industry. The award was made at the Viticulture 2007 and Wine Industry Workshop Unity Banquet held on Feb. 8 in Syracuse, NY.

"Tim Martinson is a very deserving choice for the Research Award," said Helene Dillard, director of Cornell Cooperative Extension. "The award recognizes his outstanding research and extension program, and I am pleased that he will continue to work with the grape industry in a leadership capacity in viticulture extension."

Martinson was recently promoted to statewide extension associate after serving for several years as the Finger Lakes grape specialist, providing communication and education for growers in that region. In his new position, he will further develop Cornell's internationally recognized applied research programs in grape and wine production. These programs are designed to support and improve the viability and competitiveness of New York's grape and wine industry, with a particular focus on areas with major economic and environmental impacts for growers and wineries. Martinson organized the annual Finger Lakes Grape Growers Convention, and this year played a key role in developing the Viticulture 2007 agenda.

The Unity Banquet was the highlight of a three-day conference and trade show, Viticulture 2007 and the Wine Industry Workshop, which attracted about 1,000 people from many states and several countries.

Martinson received his M.S. and his Ph.D. in entomology from Cornell in 1988 and 1990, respectively. He then worked as a research support specialist until 1996 in the grape entomology program at Cornell.

The New York Wine and Grape Foundation is a statewide, not-for-profit trade association representing grape growers, grape juice manufacturers, wineries and others in the Lake Erie, Niagara Escarpment, Finger Lakes, Hudson River, Long Island, and other regions. Part of its mandate is to stimulate coordination and cooperation among all segments of the industry in all regions. Its overall goal is "to have the New York grape and wine industry recognized as a world leader in quality, productivity, and social responsibility."

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Pictures are linked to hi-res scans



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Credit: J. Ogrodnick – NYSAES, Cornell University

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